

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 4872, Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act, as amended.

Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 257, Adjournment Resolution.

The House concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 4872, Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2069–S2134

Measures Introduced: Twenty-four bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3164–3187, S. Res. 469–470, and S. Con. Res. 56.

Pages S2115–16

Measures Reported:

S. 1635, to establish an Indian Youth telemental health demonstration project, to enhance the provision of mental health care services to Indian youth, and to encourage Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and other mental health care providers serving residents of Indian country to obtain the services of predoctoral psychology and psychiatry interns, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 111–166)

S. 1830, to establish the Chief Conservation Officers Council to improve the energy efficiencies of Federal agencies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Page S2115

Measures Passed:

Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act: By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 105), Senate passed H.R. 4872, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to Title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 (S. Con. Res. 13), as amended by operation of Section 313(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S2069–89

Rejected:

Sessions Amendment No. 3701, to ensure that Americans are not required to pay for the health benefits for those here illegally by requiring the use of an effective eligibility verification system, consistent with existing law for other federal health re-

lated programs, and to also maintain the current, and well-established requirement of law, that legal immigrants should not become a “public charge” or burden to the American taxpayers, to reduce the cost of this bill, and to reduce the deficit. (By 55 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 95), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2071–72

Cornyn Amendment No. 3698, to ensure that health care reform reduces health care costs for American families, small businesses, and taxpayers. (By 58 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 96), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2072–73

Grassley Amendment No. 3569, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure Medicare beneficiary access to physicians, eliminate sweetheart deals for frontier States, and ensure equitable reimbursement under the Medicare programs for all rural states. (By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 97), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2073–74

Brownback/Murkowski Amendment No. 3697, to index tax thresholds imposed under the legislation to prevent the government from using inflation to impose those taxes on individuals currently making less than \$200,000 and families making less than \$250,000. (By 56 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 98), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2074–75

DeMint motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance, with instructions. (By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 100), Senate tabled the motion.)

Pages S2075–76

Ensign/Brown (MA) Amendment No. 3710, to strike the penalty for failure to comply with the individual mandate. (By 58 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 101), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Page S2076

Hutchison Amendment No. 3634, to strike the 2-year limitation on the small business tax credit for taxable years after the Exchanges open. (By 55 yeas

to 43 yeas (Vote No. 103), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2077–78

Cornyn Amendment No. 3712, to give States incentives to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in their Medicaid programs. (By 57 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 104), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2078–79

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 40 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 93), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section (4)(G)(3) of the statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, all applicable sections of those acts and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to consideration of Ensign Amendment No. 3593, to improve access to pro bono care for medically underserved or indigent individuals by providing limited medical liability protections. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment violates section 313(b)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Pages S2069–70

By 45 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 94), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section (4)(G)(3) of the statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, all applicable sections of those acts and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to consideration of Coburn Amendment No. 3700, to help protect Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment violates section 313(b)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Pages S2070–71

By 39 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 99), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section (4)(G)(3) of the statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, all applicable sections of those acts and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to consideration of Vitter Amendment No. 3665, to prevent the new government entitlement program from further increasing an unsustainable deficit. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment violates section 313(b)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Page S2075

By 42 yeas to 57 nays (Vote No. 102), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional

Budget Act of 1974 and section (4)(G)(3) of the statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, all applicable sections of those acts and applicable budget resolutions, with respect to consideration of Murkowski Amendment No. 3711, to provide an inflation adjustment for the additional hospital insurance tax on high-income taxpayers. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment violates section 313(b)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was sustained, and the amendment thus fell.

Page S2077

Chair sustained a point of order against the bill, that the provision on page 118, lines 15–25 do not produce changes in outlays or revenues and is extraneous pursuant to section 313(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and the language was stricken.

Page S2086

Chair sustained a point of order against the bill, that the provision on page 120, lines 3–5 do not produce changes in outlays or revenues and is extraneous pursuant to section 313(b)(1)(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and the language was stricken.

Page S2086

Adjournment Resolution: By 49 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 108), Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 257, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

Pages S2099–S2104

Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 3186, to reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004 through April 30, 2010.

Page S2104

Internal Revenue Code: Senate passed S. 3187, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program.

Pages S2104–05

Small Business Loan Guarantee Program: Senate passed H.R. 4938, to permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S2105

Measures Considered:

Continuing Extension Act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3153, to provide a fully offset temporary extension of certain programs so as not to increase the deficit.

Pages S2091–2094

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

Page S2091

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action: By 59 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 106), Senate tabled the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S2094**

Continuing Extension Act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs. **Pages S2098–99, S2105–06**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Saturday, March 27, 2010. **Page S2099**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader be authorized to sign any duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions through Friday, March 26, 2010. **Page S2134**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Mary Helen Murguia, of Arizona, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Jerry E. Martin, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

James A. Lewis, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Melinda L. Haag, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of California for the term of four years.

Frank Leon-Guerrero, of Guam, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

Robert R. Almonte, of Texas, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Texas for the term of four years.

Dallas Stephen Neville, of Wisconsin, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Wisconsin for the term of four years.

Todd E. Edelman, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Judith Anne Smith, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Routine lists in the Army, and Navy. **Page S2134**

Messages from the House: **Page S2114**

Measures Referred: **Page S2114**

Executive Communications: **Page S2114**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2115**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S2116**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2116–30**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2111–14**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2130–34**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2134**

Quorum Calls:

One quorum call was taken today. (Total—1)

Page S2099

By 58 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. 107), Senate agreed to the motion to instruct the Sergeant at Arms to request the attendance of absent Senators. **Page S2099**

Record Votes: Sixteen record votes were taken today. (Total—108)

Pages S2070–79, S2086–87, S2094, S2099, S2100

Recess: Senate convened at 9:46 a.m. and recessed at 9:33 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 26, 2010. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2134.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: WAR SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST

Committee on Appropriations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's fiscal year 2010 War Supplemental Request, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State; and Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense.

YOUTH SUICIDE IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine youth suicides and the need for mental health care resources in Indian country, after receiving testimony from Randy E. Grinnell, Deputy Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; and Coloradas Mangas, Mescalero Apache Reservation, New Mexico.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2960, to exempt aliens who are admitted as refugees or granted asylum and are employed overseas by the Federal Government from the 1-year physical presence requirement for adjustment of status to that of aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2974, to establish the Return of Talent Program to allow aliens who are legally present in the United States to return temporarily to the country of citizenship of the alien if that country is engaged in post-conflict or natural disaster reconstruction, with amendments; and

The nominations of David A. Capp, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana,

Anne M. Tompkins, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina, Peter Christopher Munoz, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Michigan, and Kelly McDade Nesbit, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina, all of the Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 54 public bills, H.R. 4938–4991; and 18 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 258–259; and H. Res. 1219–1224, 1226–1235 were introduced. **Pages H2456–59**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2459–61**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3489, to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit State election officials from accepting a challenge to an individual's eligibility to register to vote in an election for Federal office or to vote in an election for Federal office in a jurisdiction on the grounds that the individual resides in a household in the jurisdiction which is subject to foreclosure proceedings or that the jurisdiction was adversely affected by a hurricane or other major disaster (H. Rept. 111–457) and

H. Res. 1225, providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 4872) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to Title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 (S. Con. Res. 13) (H. Rept. 111–458).

Page H2456

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Sharon Daugherty, Victory Christian Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma. **Page H2321**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a ye-and-nay vote of 241 yeas to 178 nays, Roll No. 189. **Pages H2321, H2332**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Flake announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Pages H2324–25**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:19 a.m. and reconvened at 2:26 p.m. **Page H2330**

Privileged Resolution—Motion to Refer: The House agreed to refer H. Res. 1220, raising a question of the privileges of the House, to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct by a ye-

and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 1 nay with 15 voting "present", Roll No. 187, after the previous question was ordered without objection. **Pages H2330–31**

FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act: The House concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 1586, to modernize the air traffic control system, improve the safety, reliability, and availability of transportation by air in the United States, provide for modernization of the air traffic control system, and reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration, with an amendment to the text by a ye-and-nay vote of 276 yeas to 145 nays, Roll No. 190. **Pages H2332–H2413, H2416–17**

H. Res. 1212, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill, was agreed to by a ye-and-nay vote of 231 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 188, after the previous question was ordered without objection. **Pages H2325–30, H2331–32**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Expressing support for Bangladesh's return to democracy: H. Res. 1215, amended, to express support for Bangladesh's return to democracy, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 380 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 195 and **Pages H2413–14, H2440**

Permitting the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program: H.R. 4938, to permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program. **Pages H2414–16**

Suspension—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure which was debated on Tuesday, March 23rd:

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week: H. Res. 1125, amended, to support the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 249 yeas to 172 nays, Roll No. 191. **Page H2417**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Wednesday, March 24th:

Major Charles R. Soltes, Jr., O.D. Department of Veterans Affairs Blind Rehabilitation Center Designation Act: H.R. 4360, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs blind rehabilitation center in Long Beach, California, as the “Major Charles R. Soltes, Jr., O.D. Department of Veterans Affairs Blind Rehabilitation Center”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 417 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 192.

Pages H2417–18

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 1223, electing a Minority member to a standing committee: Committee on Energy and Commerce: Representative Latta.

Page H2418

Recess: The House recessed at 5:39 p.m. and reconvened at 6:37 p.m.

Page H2418

Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010: The House concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 4872, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to Title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 (S. Con. Res. 13), by a yeas-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 194.

Pages H2418–40

H. Res. 1225, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill, was agreed to by a yeas-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 193, after the previous question was ordered without objection.

Pages H2418–29

Correction to Engrossment—H.R. 4360: Agreed by unanimous consent that in the engrossment of H.R. 4360, Major Charles R. Soltes, Jr., O.D. Department of Veterans Affairs Blind Rehabilitation Center Designation Act, the Clerk be directed to make corrections, which were located at the desk, in both the text and the title of the bill.

Page H2441

Correction to Engrossment—H.R. 1612: Agreed by unanimous consent that in the engrossment of H.R. 1612, Public Lands Service Corps Act, the Clerk be directed to execute the sixth instruction in the amendment conveyed by the motion to recommit in the form placed at the desk.

Page H2441

Reauthorizing the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004: The House passed S. 3186, to reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004 through April 30, 2010.

Page H2449

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund: The House agreed to discharge and pass H.R. 4957, to amend

the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program.

Pages H2450–51

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H2331, H2444–45.

Senate Referral: S. 3187 was held at the desk.

Page H2445

Quorum Calls—Votes: Nine yeas-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2330–31, H2331–32, H2332, H2416–17, H2417, H2417–18, H2428–29, H2439–40, H2440–41. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 11:21 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 257, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, 2010.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2011 Budget for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: James Miller, Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; Jonathan Coppess, Administrator, Farm Service Agency; John Brewer, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service; and William Murphy, Administrator, Risk Management Agency.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies held a hearing on U.S. Patent and Trademark Office FY 2011 Budget Overview. Testimony was heard from David Kappos, Under Secretary, Intellectual Property and Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Army and Marine Corps Ground Equipment. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: LTG William Phillips, USA, Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), U.S. Army; and LTG George J. Flynn, USMC, Deputy

Commandant, Combat Development and Integration, U.S. Marine Corps.

FINANCIAL SERVICES, GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services, and General Government held a hearing on FY 2011 Budget for the SBA. Testimony was heard from Karen G. Mills, Administrator, SBA.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Homeland Security Headquarters Facilities: St. Elizabeths and Beyond. Testimony was heard from Elaine Duke, Under Secretary, Management, Department of Homeland Security; and Robert C. Peck, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, GSA.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Issues from the Field. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

LABOR, HHS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2011 Budget Overview: Jobs, Training and Education. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Labor: Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training; and Raymond Jefferson, Assistant Secretary, Veterans' Employment and Training Services; and the following officials of the Department of Education: Martha Kanter, Under Secretary; and Alexa Posny, Assistant Secretary, Special Education and Rehabilitation Services.

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on U.S. Department of the Treasury International Programs. Testimony was heard from Timothy Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury.

TRANSPORTATION, HUD, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY Budget Request for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Testimony was heard from David L.

Strickland, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation.

U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND AND U.S. KOREA FORCES BUDGET

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on FY 2011 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: ADM Robert F. Willard, USN, Commander, U.S. Pacific Command; and GEN Walter L. Sharp, USA, Commander, U.S. Forces Korea.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES BUDGET

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on FY 2011 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for Department of Energy atomic energy defense activities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Thomas P. D'Agostino, Under Secretary, Nuclear Security and Administration, National Nuclear Security Administration; and Ines R. Triay, Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management; and Peter S. Winokur, Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

OVERSIGHT OF THE FCC

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet held a hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission: The National Broadband Plan." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the FCC: Julius Genachowski, Chairman; and Michael J. Copps, Robert M. McDowell, Mignon L. Clyburn, and Meredith Atwell Baker, all Commissioners.

UNWINDING EMERGENCY FEDERAL RESERVE LIQUIDITY PROGRAMS IMPLICATIONS FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "Unwinding Emergency Federal Reserve Liquidity Programs and Implications for Economic Recovery." Testimony was heard from Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

VISA OVERSTAYS

Committee on Homeland Security: Held a hearing entitled "Visa Overstays: Can They Be Eliminated?" Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Rand Beers, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate; John T. Morton, Assistant Secretary,

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and Richard L. Skinner, Inspector General; and a public witness.

FISCAL YEAR BUDGET REQUESTS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Minerals Resources held an oversight hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2011 budget requests for the Minerals Management Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the U.S. Geological Survey (excluding the water resources program) and the USDA Forest Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Interior: S. Elizabeth Birnbaum, Director, Minerals Management Service; Robert Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management; Marcia McNutt, Director, U.S. Geological Survey; and Joseph G. Pizarchik, Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement; and Hank Kashdan, Associate Chief, Forest Service, USDA.

FORECLOSURE PREVENTION

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Foreclosure Prevention: Is the Home Affordable Modification Program Preserving Homeownership?" Testimony was heard from Herbert M. Allison, Jr., Assistant Secretary, Financial Stability, Department of the Treasury; Neil M. Barofsky, Special Inspector General, Troubled Asset Relief Program; Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General, GAO; and public witnesses.

2010 CENSUS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives held a hearing entitled "The 2010 Census: An Assessment of the Census Bureau's Preparedness." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Commerce: Arnold Jackson, Associate Director, Bureau of the Census; and Judy Gordon, Associate Deputy Inspector General; and Robert Goldenkoff, Director, Strategic Issues, GAO.

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO RECONCILIATION ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a record vote of 8 to 4, a rule providing for the consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 4872, the "Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010." The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Education and Labor that the House concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 4872, the "Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010." The previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motion or demand for

division of the question. The rule provides 10 minutes of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. Finally, the rule provides that the Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Chairman George Miller and Representatives Pallone, Andrews, Ryan (WI), Barton (TX), Camp (MI), Kline (MN), and Tiahrt.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment approved for full Committee action a Committee Print that includes the following: Department of Energy Office of Science Authorization Act of 2010; ARPA-E Reauthorization Act of 2010; and the Energy Innovation Hubs Authorization Act of 2010.

MISCELLANEOUS VETERANS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the following measures: H.R. 949, To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the collective bargaining rights and procedures for review of adverse actions of certain employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 1075, RECOVER Act (Restoring Essential Care for Our Veterans for Effective Recovery); H.R. 2698, Veterans and Survivors Behavioral Health Awareness Act; H.R. 2699, Armed Forces Behavioral Health Awareness Act; H.R. 2879, Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009; H.R. 3926, Armed Forces Breast Cancer Research Act; H.R. 4006, Rural American Indian Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009; H.R. 84, Veterans Timely Access to Health Care Act, and 3 Discussion Drafts. Testimony was heard from Chairman Filner, Representatives Scalise, Giffords, Kirkpatrick of Arizona, Boswell and Brown-Waite of Florida; Gerald M. Cross, M.D., Deputy Chief, Patient Care Services and Chief Consultant for Primary Care, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

IRS AND THE 2010 TAX RETURN FILING SEASON

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on Internal Revenue Service operations and the 2010 tax return filing season. Testimony was heard from Douglas Shulman, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury.

**NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY FY 2011
BUDGET**

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold hearing on National Security Agency Budget for Fiscal Year 2011. Testimony was heard from LTG Keith Alexander, USA, Director, NSA.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
MARCH 26, 2010**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Strategic Command, and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9 a.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, hearing on Recovery Act: Progress Report for Highway, Transit, and Wastewater Infrastructure Formula Investments, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence, executive, briefings on Indications and Warning Methodology, 9 a.m., 304-HVC.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Friday, March 26

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Tuesday, April 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 12:30 p.m.), Senate will continue to try and reach an agreement to take up and pass legislation to extend unemployment and COBRA provisions.

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Bonner, Jo, Ala., E475
 Brady, Robert A., Pa., E476
 Bright, Bobby, Ala., E466
 Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E476, E476, E477, E479
 Capito, Shelley Moore, W.Va., E476
 Capps, Lois, Calif., E477
 Cardoza, Dennis A., Calif., E472, E474
 Christensen, Donna M., The Virgin Islands, E467
 Cleaver, Emanuel, Mo., E471, E479
 Connolly, Gerald E., Va., E468, E469, E470, E471
 Emerson, Jo Ann, Mo., E476
 Fox, Virginia, N.C., E474
 Giffords, Gabrielle, Ariz., E477

Graves, Sam, Mo., E465, E466, E471, E472, E473, E473, E474, E474, E475
 Griffith, Parker, Ala., E466
 Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie, S.D., E475
 Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E467, E467, E471
 Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E470
 Kanjorski, Paul E., Pa., E470
 Kennedy, Patrick J., R.I., E467
 Kilroy, Mary Jo, Ohio, E466
 Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E468
 Lowey, Nita M., N.Y., E474
 Lucas, Frank D., Okla., E468
 McCollum, Betty, Minn., E479
 Norton, Eleanor Holmes, D.C., E473
 Ortiz, Solomon P., Tex., E477

Poe, Ted, Tex., E478
 Rangel, Charles B., N.Y., E478
 Reyes, Silvestre, Tex., E477
 Richardson, Laura, Calif., E469, E471
 Rogers, Mike, Ala., E469
 Rush, Bobby L., Ill., E478
 Ryan, Tim, Ohio, E466
 Schwartz, Allyson Y., Pa., E473
 Stark, Fortney Pete, Calif., E465
 Tiberi, Patrick J., Ohio, E468
 Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E473
 Turner, Michael R., Ohio, E468
 Welch, Peter, Vt., E480
 Young, Don, Alaska, E480



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